Clean Vessel Act News



FROM THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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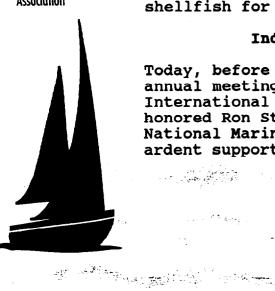
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KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN-USE PUMPOUTS



U.S. Department
of the Interior
U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service
National Oceanic
and Atmospheric
Administration
Environmental
Protection Agency
U.S. Coast Guard
BOAT/U.S. Clean
Water Trust
National Marine
Manufacturers
Association



FINAL ROUND OF GRANTS AWARDED UNDER THE 1992 CLEAN VESSEL ACT: SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM HELPS CLEAN UP AMERICA'S WATERWAYS

Miami, FL-- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced \$9.4 million in grants awarded under the 1992 Clean Vessel Act to help 35 state conservation agencies encourage recreational boaters to bring boat sewage to shore.

The states will match the Federal grants by contributing \$2.4 million for projects to install 600 additional pumpout stations and 400 dump stations, for boater awareness campaigns, and for technical assistance and maintenance programs. Now in its fifth and final year of funding, the CVA has (including the 1997 grants) awarded \$40 million to 49 states to install more than 1,600 pumpout stations and 1,000 dump facilities nationwide.

"The CVA has received high marks for improving the health of America's waterways," said Acting Service Director John Rogers. "Thanks to a total team effort of Federal, state, and private partners, the CVA has achieved remarkable results in just 5 years."

In conjunction with other clean water initiatives, the CVA provides this country's boaters, anglers, and other water-sports enthusiasts with a pollution-free and healthy environment. It also helps ensure disease-free shellfish for human consumption.

Individuals Can Make a Difference

Today, before the Boating Writers International's annual meeting, held in conjunction with the Miami International Boat and Sailboat Show, the Service honored Ron Stone, boating facilities director of the National Marine Manufacturers Association, for his ardent support of the CVA. Stone's untiring efforts to

For further information: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Aid 703-358-1845 ensure that the marine industry, community groups, and individual boaters recognized the importance of CVA's goal played a major role in the program's success.

In presenting the Clean Vessel Act award to Stone, Robert Pacific, the Service's CVA program administrator, said, "The success of the CVA clearly shows that the dedication of one person does make a difference. Ron Stone voluntarily took up the CVA mantle from the program's outset and continues to lead the charge in the war against this type of water pollution. Every one of us who enjoys water sports owes him a large thank you."

CVA Success Stories Are Starting To Come In

States are reporting good news about the health of their waterways. For the first time in decades, thanks in large part to the CVA, Rhode Island now allows shellfishing in the waters around Block Island. Using CVA money, the state alerted boaters to the health risks associated with dumping human waste directly into the water and installed easily accessible pumpout stations.

The CVA also has served as a catalyst in bringing together Federal, state, local, and private groups to enhance the protection of the Midwest's St. Croix River, now hailed as one of the cleanest river systems in the United States.

A portion of the riverway lies within an hour's drive of the 2.4 million residents of the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. Because of heavy usage, the amount of boat sewage dumped into the St. Croix River was, in large measure, to blame for the river's deterioration. The Minnesota and Wisconsin departments of natural resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, local governments, and the outdoor recreation community banded together to provide adequate pumpout and dump facilities.

"The successful clean-up of the St. Croix River and its return as a premier site for outdoor recreation came about because people worked together to make it happen," Rogers said.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently recognized the extraordinary success of this joint effort by designating the St. Croix River system a "no discharge area."

Funding for the Clean Vessel Act comes from the Sport Fish Restoration Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, commonly known as the Wallop-Breaux Fund. Monies in that fund are derived from a 10-percent excise tax on fishing equipment and a 3-percent tax on electric trolling motors and sonar fish finders, a portion of the Federal fuels tax, and import duties on fishing tackle and pleasure boats. The Clean Vessel Act Pumpout Grant program makes

matching grants available through a competitive process to all states, which, in turn, match these funds at a 3:1 ratio (Federal:state).

The following Clean Vessel Act projects are being funded in 1997:

ALABAMA (\$92,000)

The Water Division of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management requested funds to build 44 pumpout stations.

ARIZONA (\$36,000)

The Arizona Game and Fish Department requested funds to build four pumpout stations.

ARKANSAS (\$29,000)

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission requested funds to build four pumpout stations.

CALIFORNIA (\$761,000)

The Boating Facilities Division of the California Department of Boating and Waterways requested funds to build 41 pumpout stations and 36 dump stations, implement an education program, and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities.

CONNECTICUT (\$586,000)

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection requested funds to build 28 pumpout stations and 28 dump stations, implement an education program, and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities.

FLORIDA (\$908,000)

The Office of Waterway Management of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection requested funds to build 360 pumpout stations and 52 dump stations and implement an education program.

GEORGIA (\$131,000)

The Coastal Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources requested funds to build 18 pumpout stations and implement an education program.

GUAM (\$107,000)

The Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources in the Guam Department of Agriculture requested funds to build two pumpout stations and implement an education program.

IDAHO (\$1,000)

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation will build one pumpout station.

ILLINOIS (\$48,000)

The Office of Resource Conservation of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources requested funds to build 11 pumpout stations.

INDIANA (\$96,000)

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management requested funds to build 17 pumpout stations and implement an education program.

KENTUCKY (\$36,000)

The Fisheries Division of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources requested funds to build five pumpout stations and two dump stations.

LOUISIANA (205,000)

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries requested funds to build 16 pumpout stations, implement an education program, and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities.

MARYLAND (\$672,000)

The Chesapeake and Coastal Watershed Service of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources requested funds to build 114 pumpout stations and 114 dump stations, implement an education program, and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities.

MASSACHUSETTS (\$665,000)

The Division of Marine Fisheries of the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Environmental Law Enforcement requested funds to build 23 pumpout stations, implement an education program, and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities.

MINNESOTA (\$72,000)

The Trails and Waterways Unit of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources requested funds to build 14 pumpout stations and 14 dump stations.

MISSISSIPPI (\$227,000)

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks requested funds to build 16 pumpout stations and 1 dump station, implement an education program, and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities.

MISSOURI (\$36,000)

The Division of Fisheries of the Missouri Department of Conservation requested funds to build nine pumpout stations and three dump stations.

NEVADA (\$36,000)

The Nevada Division of Wildlife requested funds to build two pumpout stations and one dump station.

NEW HAMPSHIRE (92,000)

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services requested funds to build eight pumpout stations and three dump stations and implement an education program.

NEW JERSEY (\$745,000)

The Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection & Energy requested funds to build 38 pumpout stations and 367 dump stations and implement an education program.

NEW YORK (\$981,000)

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation requested funds to build 80 pumpout stations and 80 dump stations and implement an education program.

NORTH CAROLINA (\$183,000)

The Division of Marine Fisheries of the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health & Natural Resources requested funds to build 29 pumpout stations and 15 dump stations and implement an education program.

OKLAHOMA (\$23,000)

The Oklahoma Office of the Secretary of Environment requested funds to build two pumpout stations.

OREGON (\$324,000)

The Oregon State Marine Board requested funds to build 13 pumpout stations and 16 dump stations, implement an education program, and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities and technical assistance.

PENNSYLVANIA (80,000)

The Bureau of Boating of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission requested funds to build six pumpout stations, implement an education program, and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities.

PUERTO RICO (\$476,000)

The Puerto Rico Department of Environmental and Natural Resources requested funds to build 25 pumpout stations and 30 dump stations and implement an education program.

SOUTH CAROLINA (\$371,000)

The Bureau of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control requested funds to build 48 pumpout stations and implement an education program.

TENNESSEE (\$160,000)

The Division of Planning and Federal Aid of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency requested funds to build 39 pumpout stations.

TEXAS (\$104,000)

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department requested funds to build 18 pumpout stations and 30 dump stations and implement an education program.

UTAH (\$19,000)

The Utah Division of Parks and Recreation requested funds to build one pumpout station and one dump station.

VIRGIN ISLANDS (\$90,000)

The Division of Wildlife of the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources requested funds to build 15 pumpout stations and implement an education program.

VIRGINIA (\$385,000)

The Virginia Department of Health, through the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries requested funds to build 33 pumpout stations and 32 dump stations and implement an education program.

WASHINGTON (\$587,000)

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission requested funds to build 22 pumpout stations and 26 dump stations, implement an education program, and provide technical assistance.

WISCONSIN (\$36,000)

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources requested funds to build eight pumpout stations and provide for operation and maintenance of facilities.